

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 NIC-01 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 EB-11

COME-00 AGR-20 L-03 RSR-01 /114 W
----- 081178

R 161512 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4172

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS PRAGUE 0785

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, ECON, CZ

SUBJECT: SPEECH BY PARTY SECRETARY GENERAL HUSAK

1. IN CONJUNCTION WITH CURRENT ROUND OF REGIONAL PARTY MEETINGS THROUGHOUT CZECHOSLOVAKIA, HUSAK ADDRESSED PARTY CONFERENCE IN BRATISLAVA ON APRIL 14 AND TOUCHED ON VARIETY OF SUBJECTS IN HIS USUAL OFF- THE- CUFF STYLE. ON ECONOMY, HE CANDIDLY ASSERTED THAT FIRST FOUR FIVE-YEAR PLANS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA " TUMBLED DOWN," BUT CLAIMED THAT THUS FAR THE " CHALLENGING" 1971-1975 PLAN HAS BEEN MET AND THAT FIRST MONTHS OF 1973 HAVE SEEN PLAN " SLIGHTLY OVERFULFILLED" IN INDUSTRY, CONSTRUCTION AND AGRICULTURE , WHICH HE DESCRIBED AS " SOMETHING NEW" FOR CZECHOSLOVAKIA. HE REFERRED TO INDIVIDUAL PLANTS, GROUPS AND INDIVIDUALS WHO CONTINUE TO FAIL TO FULFILL THEIR TASKS, WITH SPECIAL JAB AT EXCESS DRINKING ON JOB.

2. AS HE HAS IN PAST, HUSAK, REFERRED TO WESTERN CRITICISM OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND DISCLAIMED REPORTS OF SPLITS WITHIN PARTY AND OF OPPRESSION OF INTELLIGENTSIA. HE SINGLED OUT " CAMPAIGN OF REACTIONARY ITALIAN SHEET
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' GENTE' WHICH PRINTED HIS PURPORTED REQUEST FOR REHABILITATION IN 1962, AND SAID " GENTE" REPORT HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH HIS REHABILITATION REQUEST BUT WAS ONLY MIXTURE OF ANTI- SOCIALIST AND ANTI- SOVIET FABRICATIONS.

3. IN WARNING AGAINST BOURGEOIS PROPAGANDA " AND ITS DISSEMINATIONS AND ADVOCATES AT HOME," HUSAK ASSERTED THAT THE PARTY WAS GENEROUS IN DEALING WITH " DISRUPTIVE FORCES," WHICH HAD ONLY HAD SOME " HAIR BURNED OFF THEIR HANDS, RATHER THAN HAVING HAND BURNED OFF COMPLETELY."

4. HUSAK CONCLUDED WITH EXPRESSION OF DESIRE TO IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH CAPITALIST COUNTRIES, NOTING THAT PREVIOUS DAY A " STEP FORWARD" WAS MADE IN RELATIONS WITH FRG AND THAT RESPECTIVE STANDS HAD BEEN BROUGHT CONSIDERABLY CLOSE TOGETHER. HE HOPES FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS WITH FRG WOULD " RESULT IN A TREATY, SOLUTION TO PROBLEM OF MUNICH TREATY, AND NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS." HUSAK ALSO BRIEFLY MENTIONED PROGRESS IN IMPROVING RELATIONS WITH AUSTRIA.
SHERER

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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